

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):	Masaaki Ueda, et al.	Examiner:	Unassigned
Serial No:	To be assigned	Art Unit:	Unassigned
Filed:	Herewith	Docket:	17339
For:	MEDICAL INSTRUMENT HOLDING APPARATUS	Dated:	January 5, 2004

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following references, which are also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

1. U.S. Patent No. 5,609,565, dated March 11, 1997, issued to Nakamura,
2. U.S. Patent No. US 6,514,239 B2, dated February 4, 2003, issued to Shimmura et al.; and
3. Japanese Patent Application KOKAI Publication No. 7-227398, dated August 29, 1995.

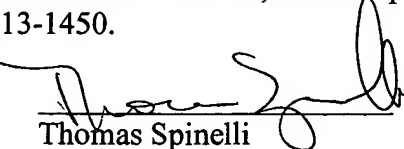
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"

Express Mailing Label No.: EV219147502US

Date of Deposit: January 5, 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Patent Application, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

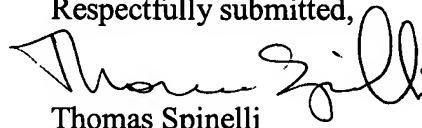
Dated: January 5, 2004


Thomas Spinelli

Applicants are submitting a copy of reference 3. References 1 and 2 are not being submitted herewith, as copies of U.S. patents are no longer required per the waiver of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i) in effect as of June 30, 2003. The relevance of references 1 and 3 has been described in the specification.

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with the schedule set out in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no statement or fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas Spinelli", written over the printed name.

Thomas Spinelli

Registration No.: 39,533

Scully, Scott, Murphy & Presser
400 Garden City Plaza
Garden City, New York 11530
(516) 742-4343

TS:cm

